

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 VO-03 SY-04 CPR-02 SCA-01

OIC-04 USSS-00 FBIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 SAB-01 SAM-01 NIC-01

DRC-01 /168 W

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R 220942Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4039

UNFO RUQMBE/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 473

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BG, EG, IR, IZ, KW, GW, FR, BE, IT, UNGA

SUBJECT: TRAVELS OF PRIME AND FOREIGN MINISTERS

REF: A. DACCA 3497 (NOTAL); B. DACCA 3619 (NOTAL);

C. DACCA 3674 (NOTAL)

1. DACCA PRESS AUGUST 22 REPORTS SHEIKH MUJIBUR RAHMAN MAY VISIT IRAQ, EGYPT AND KUWAIT IF, AS PRESENTLY PLANNED, HE ATTENDS THE UNGA SESSION. ACCORDING TO THE ACCOUNTS, THE PRIME MINISTER MAY
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DEPART DACCA ON SEPTEMBER 23 FOR NEW YORK AND VISIT CAIRO,

BAGHDAD AND KUWAIT WHILE RETURNING FROM THE U.S. THE DURATION OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S STAY IN THE U.S. IS NOT MENTIONED NOR ARE THE DATES OF HIS VISITS TO EGYPT, IRAQ AND KUWAIT SPECIFIED. ONE BENGALI DAILY SPECULATES IN LEAD ARTICLE THAT MUJIB MAY GO TO WASHINGTON AND MEET WITH PRESIDENT FORD.

2. THE LOCAL PRESS ALSO REPORTS THAT FOREIGN MINISTER KAMAL HOSSAIN MAY VISIT FRG, FRANCE, BELGIUM AND ITALY IN EARLY SEPTEMBER. NO FIRM DATES ARE GIVEN.

3. COMMENT: THE FOREIGN MINISTER IS CLEARLY PLANNING HIS EUROPEAN SWING WHILE ENROUTE TO NEW YORK FOR THE OPENING OF THE UNGA. ALL OF THE COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED ARE INVITEES TO THE AID-BANGLADESH CONSORTIUM WHICH IS EXPECTED TO HAVE ITS INAUGURAL MEETING IN MID-OCTOBER AND THUS THE FOREIGN MINISTER WILL DOUBTLESS USE THE OCCASION TO PRESS THE CASE FOR GENEROSITY TOWARD BANGLADESH.

4. THE PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT RAISES AN INTERESTING QUESTION. WHEN HIS TRAVELS WERE FIRST MENTIONED TO US, TEHRAN APPEARED TO STAND HIGH ON HIS LIST. THE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNT MAKES NO MENTION OF A VISIT TO IRAN BUT RATHER OF ONE TO KUWAIT. THE VISIT TO IRAN WAS SEEN (AS IS STILL THE CASE OF THE BAGHDAD STOP) AS DIRECTED TOWARD ELICITING ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. SOMETHING SEEMS TO HAVE GONE WRONG AND WE CAN, FOR THE MOMENT, ONLY SPECULATE ON ITS CHARACTER. SOME BENGALIS WILL CERTAINLY THEORIZE THAT PAKISTAN MAY HAVE HAD A HAND IN THE MATTER AND EVEN THOUGH TEHRAN HAS PLACED SOME DISTANCE BETWEEN ITSELF AND ISLAMABAD.

BOSTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974DACCA03772
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740232-0965
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740827/aaaaaxac.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. DACCA 3497 (NOTAL); B. DACCA 3619
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 APR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <26 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAVELS OF PRIME AND FOREIGN MINISTERS
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, BG, EG, IR, IZ, KU, GE, FR, BE, IT, UNGA, (HOSSAIN, KAMAL), (RAHMAN, MUJIBUR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005